WHEREAS, Agriculture is the basic industry in South Dakota, providing either the market or the raw material for almost the entire economy of the State; and,

WHEREAS, South Dakota can prosper only as its basic industry has the purchasing power to absorb the goods and services provided as capitalists; and,

WHEREAS, Cooperatives are a basic part of our American private enterprise system that helps individual farmers retain their identity as capitalists; and,

WHEREAS, Cooperatives have made a substantial contribution to the development of a progressive agricultural economy in South Dakota by providing the means by which farmers can increase their bargaining power and achieve economic recognition in the market place; and,

WHEREAS, Cooperatives have not only benefited the agricultural industry, but the general public as well--by placing priority on people, making them a vigorous part of the American business system:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 1977, as

COOPERATIVE MONTH

in South Dakota and urge an understanding and recognition of the achievements and services of Cooperatives in our State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Sixth Day of September, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Seven

RFK

ATTEST:

LORNA B. HERSETH, SECRETARY OF STATE